

HCS SS SB 242 -- APPEAL BONDS

This bill limits the amount of appeal bonds required of all appellants collectively to \$50 million in any civil litigation involving a claim relating to tobacco products. A court may, if good cause is shown, set the appeal bond at a lower amount, in which case the appellant must provide the court and the appellee with current and future financial statements. If the appellant is found to be purposefully dissipating or diverting assets outside the ordinary course of business for purposes of avoiding ultimate payment of the judgment, the \$50 million limit may be rescinded and the court may enter orders to prevent dissipation or diversion of the assets. The bill applies to all cases pending on or after its effective date.